G. R. S. 58]

Previous references.

Police 101/96

Later references.

P&J 74/97

191- . 1896

(Prisons Dept.

P&J File No. 103/96

Serial Nos. 1-15

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

59

Serial Nos. 1-15

Majors **Part B for**

SUBJECT.

Adoption of the System of identifying Criminals by finger-impressions.

Sl. From I. G. of Prisons.
No 716/J dated 30. 3. 97.
Requests that sanction of Govt may be obtained to the adoption in the jails in Mysore of the System of Anthroponetry.

Sl 2 To I. G. of Police No 11325/J 1300 & 17.4.97
Forwards copy of the above.

Sl 3 From Sp of Police No 3597/408 & 26.4.97
States that there is no reason for the Anthroponet Bureau being kept anywhere else than in Bangalore

GPB—3,500—21-7-14

demands copy of the above and requests to
furnish him a statement of the points on which
he requires orders of Govt. (Sl 1)

Sl 5 From D.I of Prisons No 839/J. dt 29.5.97.
States that Mr Sparks does not propose to keep
the Bonean permanently at the jail

Sl 6. To Inspectors of Prisons & Police, Dy Commrs &c.
No 442-51/J56 dated 12.7.97.
States that D.I of Prisons requires that the Bonean
should be kept temporarily in the jail and that the D.I of
Police urges that the Bonean should be kept
in the Central Police office.

2 From the D.I of Police No 324/38 dt 24.7.97
submits proposals for measurements being taken
of all the Convicts and requests that the Inspectors
of the several Distts may also be trained in Anthroponetry.

Sl 8 To The D.I of Police & To The Compt.
No. 2071-2/J210 dt 6.8.97.
Informs that the D.I of Police may establish
Distt Police Schools and that he may make
arrangements to instruct the Distt Inspectors.

Sl 9. From D.I of Police No 1094/115 dt 14.9.97.
Requests Govt to Pass orders on the Scheme
for the establishment of Distt Schools which
provides for the instruction of School Inspectors.

Sl 10. From The D.A Resident No 4062 dt 29.9.97.
Asks for the final decision of the Durbar
regarding the two Systems of Identifying
Criminals.

(70)

6468

8/15

I have inspected the Bureau. It consists of 3 almirahs in which are classified and placed all measurements. It would certainly be convenient to remove them into the Central Jail Store. This can only be permitted by the Police Office. When them back and the arrangement should be sanctioned as that the Bureau shall be under the Head of the Police Office. The Govt in their order G.O. No 23 Mis dated 11th 5937-9 approved of Mr Mathews Revised proposal to send trained men to the Jails and Lockups for taking the measurements of the convicts and known depredators. Effect must be given to this order in communication with the Head of Bureau. As regards the Central Jail there is every facility for the measurements of convicts being taken as there is a separate set of officers there & Chief Jailer, who has had the necessary training in measurements will co-operate with trained Police Officer deputed to the Central Jail for taking the measurements. This work is to be completed in the case of convicts now in the central Jail as speedily as possible. I also beg to report that although a Sub Inspector was appointed Bureau to monitor over about 480 cards and have been prepared up to date.

7/7/97

Please record one of the orders required to Bangalore - the Sparks will be able to tell me exactly what he wants done - C

12/6/97

To Police Office

13/6/97

Sub Inspector as desired above. 13/6/97

I have since ascertained that the real meaning of the Govt authorities is what I recorded in my marginal note dated 3/6/97. The Bureau is now in the superintendence of the Police - the details of the Govt wants to be arranged by him until all the convicts now in the Jail are measured. The Dy C of Police also to this I think on good grounds. C

Sub Inspector - by 7/7/97

6467

There has been a great delay in the disposal of this case which has been going on since March last - as for the first time but from the Police proper order I want that the Bureau in the Police Office. I will be at the Police Court's Office at about 1/2 past 12 o'clock this day.

7/7/97

Subd to Secy

The system adopted in the Madras Jails may be "a very sensible one;" but the description of it given by the D.G. of Prisons is quite unintelligible. He says "Unless the Central Jail does not propose to keep the Bureau permanently at the Jail but only until such a time as the prisoners have been measured anthropometrically, when the Bureau will be handed over to the Police permanently."

Now, the D.G. of Police has already pointed out (in his letter of the 26 April 1897) that the Anthropometric Bureau is everywhere kept at the Central Police Office, and could not possibly be handed over to the Jail authorities & the Police could as well. If by "Bureau" is meant merely the anthropometric cards, copies of which are, according to the Madras practice, taken and retained by the Jail authorities for their own purposes, the Police taking independent measurements of their own.

Under these circumstances, the existing practice, as explained by the D.G. of Police, may be left alone.

There is nothing in the previous papers to throw much light on the point under reference.

1/6/97.

× There are four "Bureau"? What I understand the Bureau Branch is that after all the measurements at the Central Jail the Bureau will be suspended & the Police will get all the particulars required, & that measurements & taking photographs will be left entirely to the Police. Is that correct? Please clear up this point.

⊗ Please see Mr. Chamier's letter. The point seems to be that the measurements taken by the Jail authorities are not wanted by the Police and are of no use to them.

Subd to Secy 10/6/97

3/6/97

SECTION J 87

FILE No. From 1038/96 1897

J 1162 2

8191
1-4-97

The Inspector General of Prisons
in Mysore. (63)

To The Secretary to the
Government of Mysore.

Dated 30th March 1897.

Despatched

Received 1-4-97

General No. 716
No. J.

Enclosure No.

Suggests that the sanction of
Government be obtained to the a-
doption in the Jails in Mysore of the system of Anthro-
-pometry observed by the Madras
Government.

Rejd
4/97
1.1

J 31/3/97
Recd put up.
5/4/97 J. 195 of 92-3 put up

May this suggestion (with regard to
dispensing with records kept in the Jail) be
forwarded to the Jail Office for opinion?
EDS. Tel 5/4/97
as to her opinion & then to Secl
10 7 4/97

(70)

6468

8/15

(No 7)

case pending one of
ers after my return to
Bangalore - the Sparks
will be able to tell me
exactly what he wants
done - A

12/6/97

To file 'AA'

13/6/97

13/6/97

Subordinate
desires above - by

I have ascertained
that the real meaning
of the Govt authorities
is what I recorded
in my marginal
note dated 3/6/97
The Bureau is now in
the hands of the
Police - the Jail
of the Jail wants
& the Bureau to
the Jail
by him until all
the convicts now
in the Jail are released
The Dpt of Police alone
to this & I think on
good grounds. A

Subordinate
- by
7/7/97

6467

There has been a
great delay in the
disposal of these deposits
which have come on from
as for the first time but from
Kolar proper order I want these
Bureau in the Police Office. I will be at
the Police Head Quarters Office at about 1/2 past 12 o'

+ + Please call & see me at once & submit the
I have inspected the Bureau. It consists of 3 almirahs
in which are classified and
placed all measurements.
It would certainly be inconvenient to remove them
with the Central Jail Records
them back and the arrangement already
sanctioned so that the Bureau shall be under
the Head of the Police Office. The Govt in their order
of 23 Nov last No 5937-9 approved
of Mr Mathews Note 694 Judicial
to send trained men
to the Jails and Lockups
for taking the measure-
ments of the convicts and
known depredators. Effect
must be given to this order
in communication with the
Head of Bureau - As regards the
Central Jail there is every facility
for the measurements of Convicts
& convicts being taken as there
is a regular set of officers there &
they Jailor, who has had
the necessary training in taking
identification with himself the
Police officer detailed to the Central
Jail for taking the measurements
this work & is helped with
be completed in the case of all
convicts now in the central Jail as
speedily as possible. I
Respectfully report Bureau
that altho a staff has been appointed
more than 6 months ago
about 480 cards only have been
prepared up to date. AA

7/7/97

Subd to Secy

The "system adopted in the Madras Jails" may be "a very sensible one;" but the description given by the I.G. of Prisons is quite unintelligible. He says "that of the Central Jail does not propose to keep the Bureau permanently at the Jail but only until such a time as the prisoners have been measured anthropometrically, when the Bureau will be handed over to the Police permanently."

Now, the I.G. of Police has already pointed out in his letter of the 26th April (1897) that the Anthropometric Bureau is everywhere kept at the Central Police Office, and could not possibly be handed over to the Jail authorities. What Police can do well. If by "Bureau" is meant merely the anthropometric cards, even these are, according to the Madras practice, taken and retained by the Jail authorities for their own purposes, the Police taking independent measurements of their own.

Under these circumstances, the existing practice, as explained by the I.G. of Police, may be left alone.

There is nothing in the previous papers that throws much light on the point under reference. E

7/6/97.

x Is there any one "Bureau"? What I understand the Bureau Boy is that after all the measurements in the Central Jail are measured, the Bureau cards will be transferred to the Police and forwarded, and that as regards fresh admissions to the Jail only a few measurements - what is the objection? this? Write you please Mr. Chandy to read this Note & let me know if he objects to it.

3/6/97

⊗. Please see Mr. Chandy's letter. The point seems to be that the measurements taken by the Jail authorities are not wanted by the Police and are of no use to them.

10/6/97

Subd to Secy

Do. written 11/6/97

C No 716 Bangalore 30th March 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

(63)

From

The Inspector General of Prisons
in Mysore.

To

The Secretary to the
Government of Mysore.

Sir,

With reference to correspondence ending with this office No 626 dated 27th February 1897. I have the honor to forward copy of a letter No 1064 dated 17th instant, from the Superintendent Central Jail Bangalore, and to state that Mr Hayes the Chief Jailor who was deputed to proceed to Madras to undergo a course of instruction in Anthropometry states that, the system observed by the Madras Government is to keep the bureaus until the whole of the prisoners had been done when the bureaus were handed over to the Police who visited the Jails once a week. As the Superintendent Central Jail reports that this system is the one most feasible to be adopted in the Central Jail, I would suggest that the sanction of Government may be obtained to the adoption of the same in the Jails in Mysore.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Most obdt Servant.

Surgeon Lieut Colonel
Inspector General of Prisons.

W/f

Cutcherry Superintendent's Office 4
Bangalore Central Jail
No 1064 Dated 17th March 1897

63/a

From

The Superintendent
Central Jail
Bangalore.

To

The Inspector General of Prisons
in Mysore.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that the Anthropometrical instruments sanctioned by Government for the Jail use have been received and that it is necessary to carry out this system in conjunction with the Police, to request you will inform me what system you propose to adopt.

The Chief Jailor Mr Hayes who proceeded to Madras to undergo a course of Anthropometry informs me that the system adopted by the Madras Government was for the Jails to keep the bureaus in the first instance until the whole of the prisoners had been done, when the bureaus were handed over to the Police who visit the Jails once a week Sunday for choice and take the impressions measurements &c of any newly admitted prisoners during the passed week.

As this method appears to me to be the

5

most feasible I would beg to suggest the same being adopted in Mysore -

I have &c

(Signed) W. H. Sparkes

Superintendent

Bangalore Central Jail

Copy

Surgeon Lieut Coll

Inspector General of Prisons

H.Z.

(64) b

(Here enter letter No: 716/8

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

No: 11325/1300 § 17-4-97. dated 30th March 97 from the

SECTION 187 - I. G. of Prisons in Mysore together with its enclosure,

FILE No. 103 regarding the adoption in the jails of Mysore of the system observed in Madras with regard to the anthropometrical disposal of bureaus observed by the Madras Govt)

The foregoing copies are forwarded to the Inspector General of Police in Mysore for favor of opinion on the subject.

By order.

14/4/97

for Secretary

SECTION P & J

File No. 103 P&J Gen. 30.1/96

3 1897

8972
28-4-97
J 1250

65

From

The Inspector General of Police
in Mysore.

To

The General Secretary to the
Government of Mysore.

Dated 26th
Despatched 27th April 1897.

Received 28/4/97

General No. 3597
No. 408

Enclosure No.

Marking that there is no reason for the Anthropometric Bureau being kept anywhere else than in this office.

J. 27.4.97

Submitted with reference (J.F. 195 of 1892.)

Asst. 30-4-97.

I send a copy of this & the 2 Encl. Reports & ask for a clearer plate.

- ment of the Warders wants and to which he requires the orders of Govt ?

3/5/97

5/5/97.

Perused file
5/5/97.

8

OFFICE OF THE

INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE IN MYSORE.

No. 3597/408. Dated Bangalore, 26th April 1897.

Enc.

FROM

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE
IN MYSORE.

To

THE GENERAL SECRETARY TO THE
GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE.

SIR,

With reference to your memo No. 11325/J.1300 dated 17th April 1897, I have the honor to state that the correspondence therein referred to conveys no meaning to me. The Anthropometric Bureau is everywhere kept at the Central Police Office. It could not possibly be handed over by the Jail authorities to the Police once a week. The Chief Jailor probably refers to collections of Anthropometric Cards, but he has been

misinformed in that case also. I have ascer-

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

-tained that in Madras measurements taken by the Jail are not handed over to the Police. The Jail authorities take measurements for their own purposes, and this is quite independent of the measurements taken by the Police. For the latter only Policemen are employed. They visit the jails at fixed times for the purpose.

2. I have been following the Madras practice hitherto, and I see no reason to change it, as I think it conduces most to accuracy, which is essential for Police purposes.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
your most obedient servant,

M Jagannadha Rao
Inspector General
of Police

SECTION 127
PIECE NO. 12201/96
4
66

To,

The Inspector
General of Prisons
in my care.

Dated 10-5-97-

No. 12201/1386 me: 1
Sir,

With reference
to your letter no
716 of 30th March
1897 anent the keep-
-ing of Anthropo-
metric Bureau in
the jail premises,
I am directed to
forward the accom
accompanying copy
of

11

of letter no 35-97
408

d/ 26th ultimo, from the S. of Police & to request you to be so good as to furnish this office with a clearer statement of the point or points on which you require the orders of Govt.

I have &c

C. 7-5-97

Secy.

Audited
Nov 85

E 1354 12

SECTION POL

FILE NO. 10309 5

OFFICE OF THE
10814
31. MAY 1897
DEMANDE

From The Inspector General of Prisons in Mysore

To The Secretary to the Govt of Mysore 67

Dated 29th May 1897-

Despatched

Received 31-

General No. 839

No. 9

Enclosure No.

States that Mr Sparkes does not propose to keep the Bareaus permanently at the Jail but only until such time as all the Jail - Powers have been measured anthropometrically when the bureau will be handed over to the Police permanently -

J 29.5.97

J.F. No. 195 of 92-93 containing the reference put up. DR
31/5/97

(67) 13

No 839

Bangalore 29th May 1897.

From

The Inspector General of Prisons

In

Mysore.

To

The Secretary to the

Government of Mysore.

Genl & Revl Deptt.

Sir,

With reference to your No 12201 dated S.No 66
1358
10th May 1897, with Enclosure from the Inspector General of Police, I have the honor to state that I fail to see why the Inspector General of Police does not understand what I suggested. Mr Sparks the Superintendent of the Central Jail does not propose to keep the Bureau permanently at the Jail but only until such a time as all the prisoners have been measured Anthropometrically when the Bureau will be handed over to the Police permanently. They are then at liberty to adopt any method they may think most conducive to the working of the Bertillon system. I may add that this is the system adopted in the Madras Jails and it seems to me to be a very sensible one.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your Most obdt Servant

Surgeon Lt Colonel

Inspr Genl of Prisons

Ex 1885

Dewan's office Baroda
4th June 1897

My dear Chandy.

Will you please go over the correspondence which originated with Dr Benson's proposal regarding the keeping of the Anthropometrical bureau in the Central Jail? (Vide this office Memo. No. 11325/1300 dated 17th April 1897 and the Inspector General of Police's No. 359/408 dated 26th April 1897).

Dr Benson is understood to say that, after all the prisoners now in the Central Jail are measured, the bureau will be transferred to the Police Department once for all, and that as regards fresh admissions, the Police should visit the jail once a week and take measurements. What is the objection to this? Is there only one "bureau"? I shall be glad if you will kindly

kindly ascertain and let me know
what it is that the Inspector
General of Police objects to.

I am yours sincerely

(Signed) K. S. Chandrasekharam Iyer

K. Chandy Esqre

First Photographic Record of Government Property

(69) 16

My dear Chandrasekhara Aiyar,

x Copy Sent

Your D.O. about keeping the Anthropometrical Bureau in the Central Jail. We don't clearly understand what Mr. Sparkes & the Chief Jailor say. The Bureau consists of some big Almirahs & these cannot ~~conveniently~~ conveniently

be Kept in the Jail
then transferred to this
office. Even
the Chief Jailor refer
& measurement Cards
I find he has not
understood Madras
practice Correctly, when
it is the Police and
not the Jail authorities
that take measurements
in the Jail for
Police purposes.

I Enclose for

Your information copy of a D.O. on the subject received from Mr. Meredith Asst. Insp. Genl; in Madras.

yrs Sincerely
K Chandy
7/6/27

P. S. Please return the Madras Police Admn Report which was sent to you some time back.
Where is this?
K
7/6/27

Is being searched for now

Chief Office of Inspector General
of Police. 17

Madras 23d April 1897.

(69/a)

My dear Sir,

The copies of the correspondence between the Mysore jail authorities and the Durbar which you send me convey no meaning to me.

For purposes of their own, the jail authorities in this Presidency measure prisoners but this is quite independent of any measurements we take.

Our experience is that the jail

ments are not to be relied upon, hence the reason for taking our own measurements and I would recommend you to follow our example.

From a Police point of view it is absolutely essential that measurements should be accurately recorded; the jail-authorities have not the same direct interest in obtaining correct measurements and we find that they are not to be relied upon. It is generally left to the Hospital Assistant to take measurements, and he regards the duty as more or less of a nuisance

and not unnaturally fails to devote the
care and attention which is necessary to
ensure the success of the system. We
furnish the jails with copies of our
measurements which they check with
their own. See rule 32, of our Anthropo-
metrical pamphlet.

Yours truly.

/Signed/ J. Meredith.

Copy

K Cleandy

SECTION 71 Jud J.

FILE No. No. 4442-57 & 12-7-97.

SER'AL No. 056

Proceedings of the Govt of Mysore

Read —

Correspondence ending with letter No. 839 dated the 29th May 1897 from the Inspector General of Prisons in Mysore regarding the proposed transfer of the anthropometric bureau from the temporarily Police Head Office into the Central jail Bangalore.

Order.

The Inspector General of Prisons suggests that the Bureau should be kept in the jail until such time as all the prisoners have been measured anthropometrically, but the Inspector General of Police urges that according to the practice in Madras the bureau should be in the Central Police Office, the Police men employed to take measurements visiting the

jails at fixed times for the purpose.

On inspection of however ascertained that
~~The Bureau has been inspected by Rajadhiraja Prasina M. Mott Thumboo Mott C.I.E.~~ It the Bureau now consists of three almirahs into which are classified and placed all measurements. It would certainly be inconvenient to remove them to the Central Jail and bring them back to the Police Office. This cannot, moreover, be permitted as the arrangement already sanctioned is that the Bureau shall be under the Inspector Genl of Police (vide para 2 of letter of the 22d Nov 1895 to the First Asst to the Resident in Mysore printed in Proceedings of Govt No 4217-26 — J. 449 dated 25th September 1896)

The Government in their order of the 23d November last, No 5937-9, approved of
J. 694

Mr. Madhava Rao's proposal to send trained men to the jails and lockups for taking the measurements of the convicts and known depredators. Effect must be given to this order in communication with the Inspector General of Prisons. As regards the Central Jail there is every facility for the measurements of convicts being taken as there is a separate set of appliances there, and the Chief Jailor, who has had the necessary training in Madras, will also cooperate with and assist the Police Officer deputed to the jail for taking the measurements. This work, it is hoped, will be completed in the case of all convicts now in the Central Jail as speedily as possible.

The Government regret to learn that although a ~~Head Inspector was appointed~~ Bill has been passed more than six months ago

23

6482

about 480 cards ink have been prepared ink to date.

8/7/97

Secretary.

To the Inspector Genl of Prisons
the Insp Genl of Police
Governors
2 Dirs in the
City Hospitals

8/7/97

The Sort upon in the the Head Prisons that the measure made with the Prisoners in the Central Jail should be taken over Jointly and that in regard Penal Servitude the Rules should not the Jail Governor a record and take the measurements - the measurements are still in Communication with the Jail Authorities making the measurements already

8/7

Leah

Dr Lo Cl

* then re-issue the time 9-7-97

(71)

Proceedings of the Government of Mysore, Judicial, dated 12th July 1897.

READ:—

Correspondence ending with letter No. 839, dated the 29th May 1897, from the Inspector General of Prisons in Mysore, regarding the proposed transfer of the Anthropometric Bureau temporarily from Police Head Office into the Central Jail, Bangalore.

No. 442-51—J. 56, DATED, BANGALORE, 12TH JULY 1897.

ORDER THEREON.—The Inspector General of Prisons suggests that the Bureau should be kept in the Jail until such time as all the prisoners have been measured anthropometrically; but the Inspector General of Police urges that, according to the practice in Madras, the Bureau should be in the Central Police Office, the policemen employed to take measurements visiting the Jails at fixed times for the purpose.

2. On inspection it has been ascertained that the Bureau now consists of three almirahs into which are classified and placed all measurements. It would be inconvenient to remove them to the Central Jail and bring them back to the Police Office. This cannot, moreover, be permitted, as the arrangement already sanctioned is that the Bureau shall be under the Inspector General of Police (*vide* para 2 of letter of the 22nd November 1895 to the First Assistant to the Resident in Mysore, printed in Proceedings of Government No. 4217-26—J. 449, dated 25th September 1896).

3. The Government, in their Order of the 23rd November last, No. 5937-9—J. 694, approved of Mr. Madhava Rao's proposal to send trained men to the Jails and Lock-ups for taking the measurements of the convicts and known depredators. Effect must be given to this order in communication with the Inspector General of Prisons. As regards the Central Jail, there is every facility for the measurements of convicts being taken as there is a separate set of appliances there, and the Chief Jailor, who has had the necessary training in Madras, will also co-operate with, and assist the Police Officer deputed to the Jail for taking the measurements. This work, it is hoped, will be completed in the case of all convicts now in the Central Jail as speedily as possible.

4. The Government regret to learn that, although the required establishment has been sanctioned more than six months ago, about 480 cards only have been prepared up to date.

5. The Government agree with the Inspector General of Prisons that the measurements of the prisoners now in the Central Jail should be taken once for all, and that, as regards fresh admissions, the Police should visit the Jail once a week and take the measurements. Mr. Madhava Rao will, in communication with the Jail authorities, make the necessary arrangements accordingly.

C. SREENIVASIENGAR,
Secy. to Govt., Gen. & Rev. Depts.

To—The Inspector General of Prisons in Mysore,
The Inspector General of Police in Mysore.
The Deputy Commissioners of Districts in charge of Lock-ups.

Exd—A., H., R.

1897.98

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

JUDICIAL

PROCEEDINGS

Dated 12*th July* 1897

No. 442-51 / J. 56

Passing orders in the matter of keeping the anthropometrical bureau in the Central Police Office.

M.G.C.P.B.—17-7-97—200

J 15 1 /5

SECTION P & J

FILE No. 163

SERIAL No. 784

27. JUL 1897

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE MYSORE

From The Inspector General of Police in Mysore.

To The Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore, General and Revenue Depts.

72

Dated 24th

Despatched 26th July 1897.

Received 27 ~~July 1897~~

General No. 324

No. 38

Enclosure No.

Submitting proposals for measurements being taken of all the Convicts in the Lock-ups in the Districts.

6729

without marks for the administration the proposed scheme (in the Gutt of which is under consideration) Gutt Schools, Standard Pool may amount at once for the introduction of Bertillon System as proposed in the concluding portion of para 3 of this letter —

Observe with reference to what is stated in para 2 that the Authorities proposal was intended not only to train up Bertillon but also for taking the measurements of convicts — vide the last para of the Inspector's letter of 6 Nov 96 the present proposal differs somewhat from what was proposed in Nov 96 —

Draft for approval

31/7/97

Head Assistant & Vakeel Cooke

2/8/97

J 27.7.97

J.F. No 195 of 1892-93 containing the report put up

28-7-97

Submitted to the Secretary

Noted 6-8-97

Draft A 10/7 29-7-97

770

26

OFFICE OF THE
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE IN MYSORE

No. 324/38 Dated 24/26 July 1897.

Enc.

FROM

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE IN MYSORE.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF MYSORE,
GENERAL AND REVENUE DEPARTMENTS.

SIR,

Adverting to para 4 of Government Proceedings No. 442-51 J 5-6 dated 12th × S No. 71. July 1897, I have the honor to state that the number of Cards prepared in the Central Bureau depends entirely on the number of men Convicted under chapters XII and XVII of the Indian Penal Code. Such men have been systematically measured at the Bangalore and Mysore jails, and their cards filed in the Central Bureau.

To

2. To make the collection complete, however, measurements have to be taken at all the Lock-ups as well. This could not be done by the Anthropometry Inspector, whose work is confined to the Central Bureau and the Bangalore jail. He could go out only occasionally on inspection to the outlying Districts to check the work of Inspectors when, after being duly instructed, they have begun to take measurements in the District Lock-ups.

3. I had proposed in my letter No. 4101/470 dated 8th ultimo that the District School Inspectors should be put in charge of Anthropometry in the several Districts. The idea was that these In-

W2 to Dewan on 4-7-97. This in the Police Jubilee Volume

Inspectors should receive instruction in Anthropometry at Bangalore and make Anthropometry one of the subjects to be taught in the District Schools, while also taking measurements and sending up Cards from the District Lock-ups to the Central Bureau. If orders on the above proposal are not likely to be passed in the near future, I shall deem it a favor to be informed accordingly. I would then get in other Inspectors from the several Districts and get them trained, substitutes being appointed in their stead for the period they may be away from their Districts.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
your most obedient Servant,

Inspector General of Police.

SECTION 107 (73)

Read: 1897

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

FILE NO. 6764-6

SERIAL NO. 8

No: 2071-2 / J210 J6-8-97

Letter No: 3241/38 dated 24th July 1897 from the Inspector General of Police in Mysore stating with reference to para 4 of Govt Proceedings No. 442-51 / J56 dated 12th July 1897, that the number of cards prepared in the Central Bureau depends entirely on the number of men convicted under chapters XII & XVII of the Indian Penal Code, that such men have been systematically measured in the Bangalore & Mysore jails & their cards have been filed in the Central Bureau, and that the work of taking measurements have to be taken at the Lock-ups in the Districts, and suggesting that for this purpose District School Inspectors (whose ext appointment is now pending)

Enclosure to 1897 case file

3-8 spell > 4/8

6764-6 appl. Vide also order in J329/43 Govt. dt. 4/8 order for appl

copy to go soon please 4/8

Issued 4/8 3/8/97 4/8/97

that this cannot be done by the anthropometry Inspr. whose work is confined to the central Bureau & the Bangalore Jail in connection with the Officer Schools Scheme that it was proposed that District School Inspectors shd be put in charge of Anthropometry in the several Dts after receiving a training at Bangalore, so that they might both teach anthropometry in the Dt Schools & take measurements in Dt Lock ups, and that

~~orders of Government) should~~ that if orders on this proposal are not likely to be passed in the near future he would in the meantime arrange to get in Inspectors from the several Districts & get them trained at Bangalore

~~be trained in Anthroponetry at Bangalore by turns.~~

Order thereon.

The Inspr Genl of Police is requested that

Without waiting for the orders ~~of Government~~ on the proposed scheme for the establishment of District Police Schools, which is under the consideration of Govt, ~~the Inspector General~~ he may arrange at once for the instruction in Anthroponetry of District Inspectors by turns as proposed in the concluding portion of para 3 of the letter read above.

~~With reference to~~ The observations made in para 2 thereof, as to the duties to be performed by ~~Government observe~~ the Anthroponetry Inspector, it was intended not only to train up District Inspectors but also for taking

Dr Gill 31/5/97

differ somewhat from that was stated in the last para of the Insp. Genl's letter of the 6th Nov. 1896, No 1481/75, from which it is seen that the Anthroponetry Inspector

Serial No: 52 -

the measurements of Convicts.

~~The attention of the Inspector~~
~~(vide) letter No.~~ × 1481/175 ~~dated~~
~~16th November 1896.~~

~~The present proposal of~~
~~the Inspector Genl differs somewhat from what~~
~~was proposed in November~~
~~last.~~

Secy
—
[illegible] 2/1/97

I
The Insp. Genl of Police
in Burma.
The Comptroller in Burma

SECTION 107

FILE No. 1036/97

OFFICE COPY No. 2545 1897

SERIAL No. 17. SEP 1897

(74)

From The Inspector General of Police in Mysore.

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore, General and Revenue Depts.

Dated 14th September 97

Despatched 16

Received 17

General No. 1094

No. 115

Enclosure No. Four.

Requesting Government to pass orders on the scheme for the establishment of District Schools, which provides for the instruction of School Inspectors in Anthropometry before being sent out to the Districts.

17.9.97

J.7 No. 195 of 1892-93 containing the papers put up.

18/9/97

Subs & the Secy

I have not the file re the establishment of District Schools came back from the Records in connection with the Consolidated Reconstitution Statement ordered to be prepared.

S. Bills.

Please see note

22-9-97

Please see the [illegible] subs the consolidated Prop[illegible] statement with the files & [illegible] subs to the Secretary yesterday evening.

23/9

Re subs & Secretary

23/9

Called for & returned.

The consolidated Reconstitution Statement ordered by the Records is under circulation. It includes the District Police Schools' scheme.

24-9-97

7379

Please see my notes within.

24 9 97

No reply in my letter

24 9 97 Fwd 25/9/97 subs

32

OFFICE OF THE

INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE IN MYSORE

No. 1094/115 Dated Bangalore, 14/16 September 1897

Enc. Four.

FROM

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE IN MYSORE.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF MYSORE,
GENERAL AND REVENUE DEPARTMENTS.

SIR,

Adverting to Government Proceedings No. 2071-2/J-210 dated 6th August 1897 — * directing that District Inspectors may be instructed by turns in Anthropometry, I have the honor to state that I issued a Circular, Copy of which is herewith forwarded, requesting the Deputy Commissioners to send up the Head Quarter Inspectors for being trained in the subject. From the replies received, it will be seen that the Deputy Commissioners find it difficult to

* S. No. 73

spare the Head Quarter Inspectors even for a short time at present, and I am afraid the introduction of the system into the whole Province is likely to be delayed for some months longer. I would again request Government to pass early orders on the scheme for the establishment of District Schools submitted by me so far back as January last. It provides for the instruction of the School Inspectors in Anthropometry before being sent out to the Districts. (Vide letter No. 324/38 dated 24th July last).

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Inspector General
of Police

24/9/97

Encls 8 Cy

74 34
R

[Gen. Serial No. 31.]

1897. Circular.

From The Inspector General of Police, in Mysore.

To The Deputy Commissioners of Districts

Dated 29 th

Despatched 30 August 1897

Received

Enclosures No.

General No. 851

No. Cir - 48

Has the honor to request that the Head Quarter Inspector of his District may be directed to report himself to the Office of the undersigned for being trained in Anthropometry. The Course of training will take about 8 days.

The Superintendent of Police (Assistant Superintendent) may also be requested to Come

35

Come to Head Quarters for a day or two as early as may be convenient for the principles of the system being explained to him.

(Signed) V. P. Madhava Rao
Inspector General
of Police.

"Copy"

V. P. Madhava Rao
Inspector General
of Police.

Sb.

Gen. Serial No. 31.]

MYSORE STATE 1897

74/b

From
The Deputy Commissioner
Mysore District.

To The Inspector General of Police
in Mysore

Dated 4th September 1897.
Despatched
Received

Enclosures No.

General No. 114
No.

His No. 851 / Cir 48 dated 29th August 1897.

With reference to the above, has the honor to request to be informed if there is any objection to the Head Quarter Inspector being sent to be trained in Anthropometry after the Dassara is over, as he has some important

37

important cases in hand for prosecution

(Signed) B. Madiah
Deputy Commissioner

"Copy"

K Chaudhry
for Inspector General of Police.

3t.

Gen. Serial No. 31.]

1897

74
C

From
The Deputy Commissioner
Hassan District

To The Inspector General of Police
in Mysore
Bangalore

Dated 5th

Despatched 7th September 97

Received

Enclosures No.

General No. 111
No. Police of 1897.

His Circular, Docket No. 851/48
dated 29th Ultimo.

In reply has the honor to state that the Superintendent of Police and the Head Quarter Inspector will proceed to Bangalore after the September Sessions which commences on the 6th Instant and is likely to continue for about a week or 10 days.

(Signed) S. Amir Hasan
For Deputy Commissioner
Hassan District.

39

"Copy"

K Meaudy

for Inspector-General of Police.

Gen. Serial No. 31.]

1897

74/d

From
The Deputy Commissioner
Chitaldroog District

To The Inspector General of Police
in Mysore

Dated 3rd

Despatched 4th September 1897.

Received

Enclosures No.

General No. 83
No.

His docket No. 851/48 dated
29th Ultimo.

With reference to the
above has the honor to
state that the Head
Quarter Inspector of this
District will be directed
to proceed to Bangalore
in the month of November
for being trained in
Anthropometry as he has
to

to attend to prosecution and other important work in the interval.

(Signed) M.S. Narayan Rao
Deputy Commissioner

"Copy"

Inspector General of Police

SECTION 487 P. 374

FILE No. 1023/96 1895 Pr 2944

From The Chief Secretary to the Resident in Mysore

RECEIVED IN THE DEWAN OF MYSORE'S OFFICE 4 OCT 1897

Subd to 1067/97.

Copies of this with its enclosures may be sent to the I.G. of Police & Prisons for a very early perusal & opinion.

C

16/10/97.

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,

_____ Dept.

Dated 29 Sept/97 (75)

Despatched

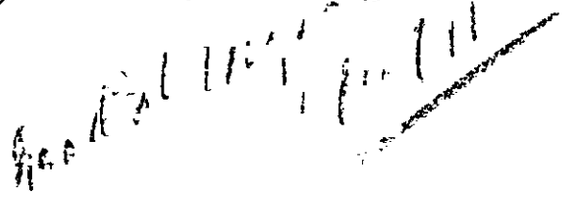
Received 8-10-97

General No. 4062

No.

Enclosure No. 4

Asking for the final decision of the Darbar regarding the two systems of identifying Criminals by means of Anthropometry & finger impressions.



References to be marked.

Subd to the Secy C 6/10.

The file showed have been sent with this. Case pending please C

Recd & returned 8/10/97. 6/10/97

J.F. No 195 of 1892-93 put up Subd to the Secy C 10/10 8/10/97.

43

J 4/1097

No. 4062 Enty

75-

FROM

THE FIRST ASSISTANT TO THE RESIDENT IN MYSORE.

To

The Dewan of Mysore.

Dated Bangalore, 29th Septr 1897.

SIR,

I am directed to invite a reference to the correspondence ending with your letter No 5837-J.678 dated the 21st November 1896 regarding the system of identifying criminals by means of anthropometry and finger impressions.

2. In this Office letter No 2824 of the 23rd July 1895 Mr Lee Warner, acting under instructions from the Government of India, represented to the Durbar the advisability of introducing into the Mysore State the anthropometric system. The Durbar concurred in the necessity for such introduction, certain Police and Jail Officers underwent a course of instruction at Madras and it is understood that the system has been in force in the State for some 9 or 10 months.

3. The system was an advance on previous methods of identifying criminals but recent experience in other parts of India has shown it to be in some respects defective. It has accordingly been superseded in British India by the simpler and apparently more effective process of identification by finger impressions

which

which was brought to your notice in my letter No 2602 of the 18th July 1896. It is understood that this system too has been introduced in Mysore concurrently with the anthropometric system.

4. The two systems are discussed in letter No 2471 of the 13th March last from the Inspector General of Police Lower Provinces to the address of the Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal and in the report of the Committee convened to examine the subject. It is on the recommendations contained in the latter that the anthropometric system has been, as already stated, superseded by the system of identification by finger impressions. The Government of India remark that even this latter system may be susceptible of improvement and they do not propose to advise the Durbar to pursue it unless the Durbar, after reading the enclosures to this letter, wish to.

5. As for the anthropometric system the Resident thinks that in view of the facts now brought to notice the Durbar may see fit to discontinue it.

6. Colonel Robertson will be glad to hear the final decision of the Durbar regarding these 2 systems.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

K. D. Erskine Captain,

First Assistant Resident.

45

[redacted]

Camp No: 55-6 of 18-10-97.

(76)

Read

(Here enter letter No 4062 dated 29th Sept 97 from Native Affairs Department).

Order

Copies of the above mentioned enclosure, are forwarded to the Officer of Police & Officer of Customs, for very early supervision on the Vessels mentioned therein.

16/10/97.

7508
Offr
AM
16/10/97

Issue as am plan

J 582 40

~~Serial No. 40 J~~

~~GENERAL OFFICE~~ 1897

~~Diary No. 1430 of 96~~ 3649

30-10-97

From

The Inspector General of Prisons in Mysore

77

To

The Secretary to the Govt of Mysore

General and Revenue Departments

Dated 28th October 1897

Despatched

Received 30 —"—

General No. 266

No.

Enclosure No.

Submits opinion regarding the two systems of identifying criminals by means of Anthropometry and finger impressions.

J 30/10/97

J.F. No. 195 of 1892-93 containing the refee put up. WB 1-11-97

await receipt of reply from the I.G. of Police If not rec'd by the end of this week put up reminder WB 1/11

Reply rec'd and Sub'd WB 3-11-97

47

No 266 Bangalore 28th October 1897

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

From

The Inspector General of Prisons

77

in Mysore.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Mysore

General and Revenue Departments

Sir,

With reference to the Proceedings of Govern-

ment forwarded with your Camp × No 55-6 —

dated 18th October 1897, regarding the System of

identifying criminals by means of Anthropometry

and finger impressions, I have the honor to state

that after perusing the enclosed + correspondence

and report of the Committee, I am of opinion

that the method of identification of habitual —

criminals by means of finger prints devised by

Mr Henry may be safely adopted in preference

to the Anthropometric method, as the method of

taking finger impressions appear so simple that

any

× S No 76

+ herewith returned

any person whether educated or not, after half
an hour's practice would be capable of taking
them, the accessories required are also inexpensive
as compared to the instruments required for the
Anthropometric, which system requires a person
of education to understand the different signi-
-ficance of the figures of the decimal scale.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Most Obedient Servant.

Surgeon Lt Colonel

Inspector General of Prisons

SECTION J 92 49

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

FILE No. 3745 10/1897

2-11-97

78

From

The Inspector-General of Police in Mysore.

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore, General and Revenue Depts.

Dated 30th October

Despatched 1st November 1897.

Received 2 — a —

General No. 1596

No. 161

Enclosure No. 2

Stating that the system of Anthropometry measurements may be discontinued in Mysore, but that as the system of identification by finger-print impressions supply a more reliable data for identification, it may be continued.

J 2/11/97

J 7 No. 195 of 1892-93 containing the reference put up. DM

3-11-97

Sub 6 the Secy, with Insp-Genl of Prisons' letter No. 2668 & 28 enclosures.

Both the Officers agree that the System of finger impressions is preferable to the Anthropometric

System, but they desire to differ regards the question whether the latter system should be discontinued or not. On this point the decision of the Govt is required.

DR 3/11

The Supt of police has not as yet supplied the necessary clerks for the work. Hence the system cannot be introduced at present.

The Anthropometric System may be discontinued & the process of identifications by finger impressions continued.

Inspr Genl

4-11-97

7642

The Resident may be informed that on a perusal of the correspdce and after ascertaining the views of the Inspector Genl of Prisons the Anthropometric system which has been found to be too elaborate and difficult to be satisfactorily has been ordered to be discontinued. The Govt of Mysore reports that the finger print impressions are now being taken; but some difficulty is experienced in classifying them. Both the Inspector Genl of Prisons & Police are in favor of giving this system a trial as it is simple & inexpensive. Under these circumstances the decision is deferred to give it a trial in the Bangalore Central Jail & the Jails at Mysore & Shimoga subject to a report being submitted as to its working after the expiration of a year. On receipt of such report the question will be put up for further orders as to its continuance. H Mun.

DR 4-11-97

Sec to Govt
to forward Insp Genl
Prisons letter & enclosures
for information
Govt Police

4-11-97

50

OFFICE OF THE
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE IN MYSORE.

No. 1596 - 161 Dated Bangalore 30th October 1897 / 1st November

Enc. Two

FROM

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE IN MYSORE.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF MYSORE,
GENERAL AND REVENUE DEPARTMENTS.

SIR,

With reference to your letter No. 55-6 dated 18th October 1897. I have the honor to state that the system in Mysore is an improvement on the old Bengal system. Classification by height has been dispensed with, so that we have only 243 pigeon-holes instead of 729 as in Bengal, but in view of the experience gained

gained in Bengal and the decided opinion of the originator of the scheme that the system has not yielded satisfactory results and is difficult to work, it may be discontinued in Mysore also.

2. As regards the system of identification by finger-prints, finger impressions are being taken now as accessory to Anthropometry It is understood that finger-print impressions supply a more reliable data for identification. The difficulty hitherto has been to classify them As Mr: Henry appears to have done this satisfactorily it will be well to try the new system here. An Officer will have to go to Bengal for studying it. In addition to

the

52

the advantages noted in the enclosures, there is also the advantage of doing away with the two sets of classifications for infants and adults which obtain in Madras. As finger-print impressions never change, one classification will serve for both.

* herewith returned

3. With reference to para 5 of the Assistant Resident's letter, I do not think it desirable that the present system should be discontinued. We are now taking finger print impressions, and I believe it will be possible to reclassify our cards under the new system when it is introduced.

Brief the para

? the word underlined is the word used I think "continue"

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedient Servant,

M. Ramachandra Rao
Inspector General of Police.

Report of Committee to examine into the system of identification by finger impressions.

Under instructions from the Government of Bengal, the undersigned met in the office of Mr. Henry, Inspector-General of Police, Lower Provinces, on the 29th March 1897, to report on his system of identification by finger impressions.

2. Mr. Henry first explained the present or anthropometrical system of identification by measurements and its classification which has yielded excellent and progressively improving results each year. During 1896, 4 out of every possible 10 cases were identified. But the system has weak points.

(*a*) Skilled persons are required to take the measurements, and they must have sufficient education to enable them to read the instruments and to use the decimal notation. This is more particularly a serious objection in India, where warders and policemen are frequently far from well-educated men.

(*b*) Carefully made and delicate instruments are necessary to take the measurement with sufficient accuracy.

(*c*) The number of measurements to be taken is considerable, *viz.*, 3 for the length of head, 3 for the width of head, 3 for length of left forearm, 3 for length of left foot, 3 for length of left little finger, and 3 for height, or 18 in all; the mean of each group of 3 is taken as the final measurement. In addition to these, marks and scars are searched for and so the actual anthropometric record of one person occupies the measurer between half-hour and one hour.

(*b*) Owing to the liability to error in measuring or in recording the measurements—notwithstanding that the instruments used, *i.e.*, callipers and sliding bars, have been rendered automatic in their working and, in the former case, self-registering also, it has been found desirable to allow for possible variation of two millemetres in excess and in defect of the measurements. This necessitates, in some cases, search being made in 10 or even 12 different pigeon-holes for the duplicate of a case which is being tested to ensure its not being passed over. The average time of search therefore under this system exceeds one hour.

As an instance of how inaccuracies will creep in, the last card of which the original had just been discovered showed two errors or variations in measurements, one being as much as $3\frac{1}{2}$ millemetres.

3. After having seen the anthropometric system and having noted its defects, the system of finger impression was carefully examined. The first thing that struck us was the facility with which the impressions were made and the clearness of the impressions themselves, every little detail being, as a rule, sharply defined and easily seen with the help of an ordinary magnifying glass. The method of taking them is simplicity itself; all the materials required are a flat piece of tin, a bottle of ordinary printer's ink and a small rubber roller to spread the ink on the tin. The finger is rolled carefully without rubbing on the inked tin and then on to paper; to take impressions of all the 10 digits occupies only 5 minutes or less, and in this short time an absolutely accurate record without any possibility of accidental error is obtained without skilled labour and without instruments.

4. The method of classification devised by Mr. Henry was then explained to us. The first classification divides all the different kinds of impressions into two classes only, which can be recognised at a glance; by taking the combinations of these two classes as exhibited in the 10 different digits, taken in pairs, all descriptive cards can be divided into 1,024 classes, and to each class is allotted a separate pigeon-hole. By means of the key, a copy of which is attached, any one pigeon-hole can be at once found with the greatest ease and certainty even by a person who has never seen the system before. We were both enabled to do this at once without any difficulty. Having thus located the card in one particular pigeon-hole, a further classification is necessary to assist in the search

through all the different cards in that-pigeon hole ; this further classification depends on the details in the impressions, which it is unnecessary to enter into here ; but it is so simple that we were both able to find the originals of two of the most intricate cards that could be produced, with ease and certainty. The men whose duty it is to look up for the originals in no case took more than 5 minutes to produce the original, the duplicate of which we had handed to them out of a file of some 600 records, and the originals of which were part of a file of finger print cards exceeding eight thousand in number. One case which was selected as being apparently an especially difficult one, as it was very indistinct, was found in two minutes only. The principles of the sub-classfication are such that should minute distribution be needed in consequence of any great accumulation in any one pigeon-hole, it can easily be made by extending the same principles. The system of search is therefore much more rapid and more certain than that for the anthropometric data.

5. The greatest sceptic would be at once convinced of identity, on being shown the original and duplicate impressions The exact repetition of most minute details is quite astonishing. There is no possible margin of error and there are no doubtful cases.

6. Thus the three main conditions laid down by the Committee appointed by the Secretary of State to enquire into the best means available for identifying habitual criminals are fully satisfied, *viz.*:—

1. The descriptions, measurements, or marks which are the basis of the system must be such as can be taken readily and with sufficient accuracy by prison warders or police officers of ordinary intelligence.

2. The classification of the descriptions must be such that on the arrest of an old offender who gives a false name his record may be found readily and with certainty.

3. When the case has been found among the classified descriptions it is desirable that convincing evidence of identity should be afforded. In that same report it is acknowledged that Mr. Galton's finger print method completely met the 1st and 3rd conditions, but they disapproved of his method of classification. Mr. Henry's method of classification and sub-classification has we consider, effectually got over the objections raised by them, for, out of 8,000 cards, no sub-class contained more than from 10 to 20 originals, and the system is capable of almost endless amplification if necessary.

7. In conclusion, therefore, we are of opinion that the method of identification of habitual criminals by means of finger prints as worked on the system of recording impressions and of classification devised by Mr. Henry may be safely adopted as being superior to the anthropometric method, (1) in simplicity of working, (2) in the cost of apparatus, (3) in the fact that all the skilled work required is transferred to the central classification Bureau, (4) in the rapidity with which the process can be worked, and (5) in the certainty of the results.

CALCUTTA,
March 31st, 1897.

CHAS. STRAHAN, *Major-General, R. E.,*
Surveyor-General.

ALEX. PEDLER, *F. R. S.,*
Principal, Presidency College.

G. C. Press, Simla.—No. 610 H. D.—14 6-97.—400.

No. 1673-J., dated Calcutta, the 20th March 1897.

From—C. W. BOLTON, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

In continuation of the letter from this office, No. 4-J.T., dated the 13th July 1896, I am directed to submit, for the information of the Government of India, a copy of a report from the Inspector-General of Police, Lower Provinces, on the subject of the working in Bengal, during 1896, of the anthropometric system for the identification of old offenders, and on the progress that has been made in elaborating a system of classifying finger impressions with a view to substituting this means of identification for anthropometry.

2. I am to enquire, with reference to paragraph VI of the report, whether the Government of India would be willing to appoint a Committee, as suggested by the Inspector-General of Police, to enquire into and report upon the system.

No. 2471, dated Calcutta, the 13th March 1897.

From—E. R. HENRY, Esq., C.S., Inspector-General of Police, Lower Provinces,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

In continuation of previous reports (the numbers and dates of which are given in the margin), I have the honour to submit information regarding the working in this Province, during 1896, of the anthropometric system, and also regarding the progress made in elaborating a system of classifying impressions with a view to substituting identification by finger prints for anthropometry.

Letter No. 25229 of 22nd December 1891; No. 1732 of 25th February 1893; No 6553 of 1st May 1894; No. 10552-A. of 26th June 1895, and 10500-T., of 24th June 1896, from the Inspector-General of Police, Lower Provinces, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

II. During the year, 2,101 persons were on arrest, treated as unidentified. By sustained enquiry, the local Police succeeded subsequently in recognising 1,270 of them, leaving a balance of 831 persons unidentified, with whom anthropometry had to deal.

The following table, which gives statistics for three years, shows that the success achieved has been progressive, and that the figures compare favourably with those submitted for Provincial France by Mons. A. Bertillon, to the Fourth International Congress of Criminal Anthropology held at Geneva in August 1896:—

YEAR.	Total number of cases in which identity established by anthropometry.	Number in column 2 referred by Bengal districts.	Total number of persons in Bengal districts whose identity local Police failed to ascertain.	Percentage of success from Bengal districts (column 4 to column 3).	Percentage of success, with females, juveniles, and non-British subjects excluded from total of column 4.	Number of cases identified by the Paris Bureau on reference from French Provinces.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1894	143	112	536	21	27	133	
1895	207	162	641	25	31·6	151	
1896	334	252	831	28	42·3	...	

The figures in column 2 for 1896 include 69 cases identified for the Calcutta Police, 27 for Assam, 1 for Burma, and 1 for the North-Western Provinces.

The figures of column 6 are arrived at by deducting females and juveniles who are not liable to measurement, and non-British subjects belonging to States where anthropometry has not been introduced, from the totals of column 4 for the purpose of calculating the percentage. In 1896, there were 14 females, 53 juveniles, and 103 non-British subjects.

III. These statistics may be relied upon, as much care is taken at the Central Office to guard against bogus identifications. In three cases—one from Mymensingh and two from Nadia—references were made to the Central Office regarding men actually residents of these districts, the explanation offered being that, although the identity of the suspects was known, it was thought, as they were of wandering habits, that they might have been convicted in distant places, intimation not having been sent to their native districts. Of the 334 persons identified, 109 were ascertained to have given correct names and addresses. As

pointed out last year, such information, until tested, is of no value, as criminals, to defeat enquiries, occasionally give the names and addresses of persons other than themselves. This information might have been verified by calling witnesses, a tedious and expensive process, which was rendered unnecessary by the testimony afforded by the anthropometric data. When the cases came to trial, the evidence required by law as to the fact of previous criminality and identity had of course to be produced by the local Police, who, from the information supplied by the Central Office, knew where to seek for it.

IV. This outturn justifies the opinion that the anthropometric system is being worked on sound lines and effectively, since, by means of it, 4 out of every possible 10 cases were identified, some of the identifications being from areas not in any way under the departmental control of the Bengal Police Office, as Assam, the North-Western Provinces, Burma, the Calcutta Police.

V. Satisfactory as are these results, longer experience has convinced me that it is possible to substitute, with gain of power and saving of expense, labour and time, a system of identification by finger impressions only, not supplemented by measurements. The difficulties expereinced during the last two years in devising an effective system of classifying have at length been overcome. A statement in parallel columns of the strong and weak points of either system will illustrate the advantages claimed.

Anthropometry.	*Identification by finger prints.*
1st.—Intruments are costly, liable to get out of order, and not easily replaced.	*1st.*—Accessories needed, a piece of tin and some printer's ink, are inexpensive and procurable everywhere.
2nd.—Measurers have to be put through a somewhat lengthy course of instruction and must be possessed of sufficient education to understand the significance of the figures of the decimal scale.	*2nd.*—Any person, whether educated or not, after half an hour's practice, can take legible finger impressions.
3rd.—The "Personal Equation" error, due to negligence or want of skill on the part of the measurer in taking, reading or transcribing figured results, must always remain a probable source of failure.	*3rd.*—As impressions are self-signatures free from all possible errors of observation and transcription, the "Personal Equation" error may be wholly left out of account.
4th.—Recording measurements occupies much time, as each measurement is taken three several times and the mean only accepted. Marks and scars are noted, and this necessitates the body being exposed. High caste measurers express repugnance at having to touch the feet of low caste men, and the persons measured object to the uncomfortable positions into which they are forced.	*4th.*—The impressions of the ten digits can be taken in one quarter of the time needed for measuring. No record of marks and scars is needed, consequently the subject has not to divest himself of his clothes. High caste men do not object to taking finger impressions; even *purdanishin* ladies now give a thumb impression when admitting before a Registrar the execution of deeds.
5th.—Search in the almirahs is particularly onerous, because allowance must be made for the "Personal Equation" error. For instance, when a card with Length of Head 18·4 is received, it is necessary to assume that the measurer may have gone wrong within 2 millemetres either in excess or defect, and search accordingly is made between 18·6 and 18·2, but the former comes under limit "Long" and the latter under limit "Medium"; *i.e.*, different pigeon-holes have to be examined. Similar allowance has to be made in respect of the other five measurements, with the result that on an average nine pigeon-holes must be searched, the process, now that our Criminal Record consists of about 30,000 cards, occupying over one hour.	*5th.*—Search is comparatively rapid. By the aid of rigid definitions transitional cases have been wholly eliminated, and search consequently has to be made under one classification number only, and not under several. With criminal records of similar volume, search amongst finger impressions would be manyfold more rapid and, according to my experience, more certain.

Anthropometry.	*Identification by finger prints.*
6th.—The strongest feature is the excellence of the system of primary classification, whereby roll-cards are distributed amongst 729 pigeon-holes. In this country, owing to there being little variation in the pigmentation of the iris of the eye, or in the colour of the hair, secondary classification upon the data we possess presents many difficulties.	*6th.*—An arrangement similar in principle to the Bertillon system, only more exhaustive, has been devised, whereby finger impressions are, in primary classification, rapidly subdivided amongst 1,024 pigeon-holes, and wherever there is accumulation, effective means of secondary classification have been worked out.
7th.—It has been claimed that the probability of all six measurements of two different persons agreeing is so small, that a fraction with a denominator of five figures would be required to express it arithmetically. The assertion would be correct if no allowance had to be made for the "Personal Equation" error, but in practice such allowance (*i.e.*, from 4 to 6 millemetres) is and must be made, and, as coincidences in measurement have occurred, no positive deductions from measurements as to identity can be deemed safe.	*7th.*—Each of the ten impressions taken has its own individual "minute peculiarities," which can be observed and described. If for purposes of establishing identity, a couple of minute peculiarities in each impression on a card under search are selected, sought for, and found in a duplicate, the probability that the impressions on the card under search, and on the duplicate, are those of the same person, is of a higher degree than that which, to most minds, ordinarily represents certainty.

VI. We have already classified over 8,000 sets of finger impressions with about 600 duplicates, so the materials for subjecting the system to severe tests are ample. If it answers these tests, there will remain no room for doubt that identification by finger impressions must, owing to its inherent advantages, supersede anthropometry everywhere in this country, and also in Europe, and the subject consequently is of more than provincial interest. I venture therefore to ask that the Government of India be moved to appoint a small independent Committee to enquire into and report upon the system. Since the beginning of the present year, anthropometric data are no longer taken for permanent record in Bengal. Unidentified persons are being measured as before, so that the existing anthropometric criminal record may be utilised, but the finger impressions only, and not the mesurements of new convicts, are being taken.

No. 5534 / 630 15-11-97

54

SECTION R&J.J.

FILE NO. 10326/96

NOTE

The 1st Asst. to the Resident in Mysore.

(79)

Sir,

Adverting to your letter No. 4062 of 29th Septr 1897 on the subject of the relative merits of the anthropometric system and of the system of identification by finger impressions, I am directed to state that the Durbar have read with interest the papers furnished therewith containing the reports of the Insp.r General of Police, Lower Provinces, and of the Committee appointed by the Government of Bengal

Bengal, on the subject, and have, after careful consideration, arrived at the conclusion that the Anthropometric system which is too costly and elaborate and which cannot be easily and satisfactorily worked, should be discontinued in the Mysore State.

2. As regards the new system of identification by fingerprints, I am to state that finger impressions are now being taken in Mysore as accessory to Anthropometry, though

though there has been some difficulty in classifying them. The Inspectors General of Police and Prisons in Mysore are in favor of giving this system a trial and the Durbar agree with them. It has accordingly been decided that this system should be pursued in the Bangalore Central Jail and in the jails at Mysore and Shimoga tentatively for a year subject to a report as to its working at the end of that period. I am to add that on receipt of such report the

Durbar

57

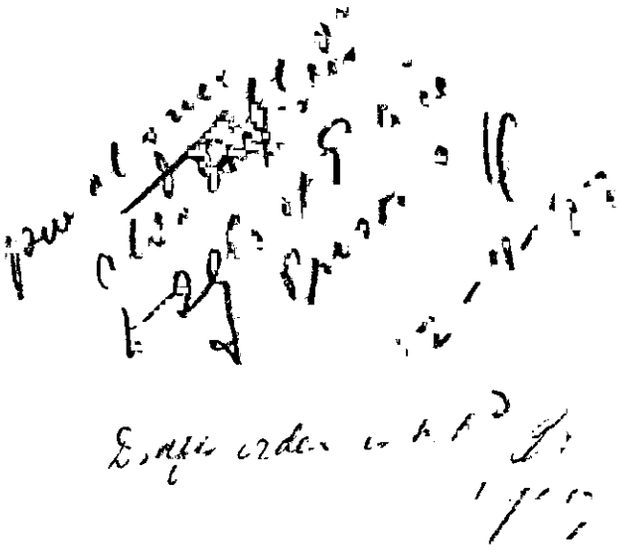
Durban will be in a position to decide finally as to the continuance or otherwise of the System.

I have &c
C
8-11-97
Secretary.

8/11/97

Sent to Devan
for observations
C
8-11-97

Devan
agrees.
9-11-97



Press copy sent to Press on 8-97

(80) 58

Proceedings of the Govt of Mysore

Read No: 5535-36 / 631 dt 15-11-97

(1) Letter No 4062 dt 29th September 1897 from the Pt Asstt to the Resident in Mysore forwarding copies of the Reports of the Inspector General of Police, Lower Provinces, & of the Committee appointed by the Govt of Bengal regarding the relative merits of the Anthropometric System and of the System of identification by finger impressions.

(2) Letter No 266 dt 28th Oct 1897 from the Inspector General of Prisons in Mysore, stating, with reference to this Office No 55-6 dt 18th Idem, that the method of identification by means of finger-prints devised by Mr Henry may be safely adopted in preference to the Anthropometric System, it being so simple that any person whether Educated or not could after half an hours practice take the finger impressions.

I put it up accordingly
Henry Bruce 9
12-11-97

(3) Letter No. 1596/161 dt 30th Oct/97 from the Inspector General of Police in Mysore stating that the Anthropometric System may, in view of the experience gained in Bengal ~~and~~ the opinion expressed by the originator of it, be discontinued in Mysore, and that the new system of identification by finger-prints may be tried here, as it is understood that finger-impressions supply a more reliable data for identification.

Order thereon.

The Govt have, after careful consideration of the paper read, resolved that the Anthropometric system, which is costly and elaborate and cannot be easily and satisfactorily worked, should be discontinued in Mysore, and that in its place the system of identification by finger-prints should be tried as recommended by the Inspector General of Police and Prisons. This system will be pursued tentatively in the Bangalore Central Jail and in the Jails of Mysore & Shimoga.

Where it is ~~understood~~

A

~~There are facilities for~~
~~giving ideal without~~
~~employing extra staff~~

The Inspectors General of Police and Prisons are re-quested to submit a report as to its working ~~after~~ at the end of one year. On receipt of their reports, Govt will be in a position to decide finally as to whether this new syst-em should be continued or not.

12-11-97
Secretary

To 12/11/97

The Inspector General of Police

Prisons.

(80)

READ :—

(1) Letter No. 4062, dated 29th September 1897, from the First Assistant to the Resident in Mysore, forwarding copies of the reports of the Inspector General of Police, Lower Provinces, and of the Committee appointed by the Government of Bengal, regarding the relative merits of the anthropometric system and of the system of identification by finger impressions.

(2) Letter No. 266, dated 28th October 1897, from the Inspector General of Prisons in Mysore, stating, with reference to this office No. 55-6, dated the 18th idem, that the method of identification by means of finger-prints devised by Mr. Henry, may be safely adopted in preference to the anthropometric system, it being so simple that any person whether educated or not, could after half an hour's practice take the finger impressions.

(3) Letter No. 1596—161, dated 30th October 1897, from the Inspector General of Police in Mysore, stating that the anthropometric system may, in view of the experience gained in Bengal and of the opinion expressed by the originator of it, be discontinued in Mysore, and that the new system of identification by finger-prints may be tried here, as it is understood that finger impressions supply a more reliable data for identification.

No. 5535-36—J. 631, DATED, BANGALORE, 15TH NOVEMBER 1897.

ORDER THEREON.—The Government have, after a careful consideration of the papers read, resolved that the anthropometric system, which is too costly and elaborate and cannot be easily and satisfactorily worked, should be discontinued in Mysore, and that in its place the system of identification by finger-prints should be tried as recommended by the Inspectors General of Police and Prisons. This system will be pursued tentatively in the Bangalore Central Jail and in the Jails of Mysore and Shimoga. The Inspectors General of Police and Prisons are requested to submit a report as to its working at the end of one year. On receipt of their reports, Government will be in a position to decide finally as to whether this new system should be continued or not.

C. SREENIVASIENGAR,
Secy. to Govt., Gen. & Rev. Depts.

To—The Inspector General of Police in Mysore.
The Inspector General of Prisons in Mysore.

Exd.—H.A.B.

1897-98

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

JUDICIAL

PROCEEDINGS

Dated 15*th November* 1897

No. $\frac{5535\text{-}36}{\text{J. } 631}$

Ordering that the anthropometric system may be discontinued in the State and the system of identification of criminals by finger-prints adopted tentatively.

M.G.C.P.B.—26-11-97—250

Forwards copies of the above (8&10) for favour opinion

12. From Dy of Prisons No. 266 & 28.10.97 Submits his opinion regarding the system of identifying criminals and states that the system of identifying by finger-prints is simple.

13. From Dy of Police.

No 1596/161 Dated 30.10 / 1.11 .97.

States that the system of Anthropometric measurements may be discontinued and that the other system may be introduced.

14. To the J.A. Resident. No 5534/J630 & 15.11.97 Informs that the Govt has decided to adopt the system of identifying criminals by finger-prints, as a temporary measure.

15 To the Dy of Police, D.S of Prisons No 5535-36/J631 & 15.11.97.

States that the Govt have resolved to introduce the system of identifying criminals by finger-prints and that the Inspectors Gel of Police and Prisons are requested to report on the working of the system, at the end of one year to enable Govt to decide finally as to whether the system may be continued or otherwise.

Indexed: N Pattabhiram